

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—**St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated** to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

Phone: 03 489-7716 Fax: 03 489-0991
E-mail: office@stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz
www.stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz

Term 4 Week 8

13TH December 2011

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

The last newsletter for 2011 and what a busy and yet fulfilling year it has been.

When we think back on 2011 many people will remember the terrible natural disasters that occurred in Christchurch and Japan, they will think of the bloody revolutions right throughout the Arab world and the continued global financial meltdown.

Some will remember it as the year in which New Zealand finally regained the Rugby World Cup or the year in which the new Forsyth Barr Stadium opened for business.

Children, especially young children have, I believe, more personalized memories. They remember their own personal experiences far more strongly than they relate to a name that they have had no personal interaction with.

That is why the experiences, the routines, the skills and techniques that children learn while they are young are so important because they form the type of person that they will be and where they will go in life. A positive partnership between home and school is a vital component for a young person to ensure rapid development in these early years.

Leading Education Theorist Lester Flockton spoke recently of the amount of time that a young person is actually at school, he suggests about 20%. But if the school and home are more of a community then obviously the school's affect is far greater. But a school with such a limited access can only really accomplish so much, the home must continue to support this development, be it reading, maths or social. So please, during the holidays continue to support your child's learning, read to them, play games with them, and talk to them.

I would also like to farewell our Year Eight pupils, they have been great leaders and have achieved a huge amount this year. I feel confident that they have been well prepared for the next big step in their life, into secondary education and I wish them all well. Please come along to our End of Year Mass and Prizegiving to farewell them and to mark the end of another highly successful year at St Mary's.

Have a happy and Holy Christmas and a restful and enjoyable New Year.

**Have a great week,
Mike Brosnahan.**

Thank you to helpers

From all of the staff, the BOT, the parents and the pupils a huge 'Thank You' to all of the people who have helped us during the year.

We have had people help on: school camps and class trips, coaching and managing sports teams, helping at fairs and fundraisers, on working bees and in class, by supplying transport and feedback.

To all people who have helped **thank you**, without your help and assistance we would not be able to offer our pupils the wide range of options and activities that we do.

Room 7 Big Day Out



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

St Marys PTA Christmas Trail

The PTA have arranged to do a Christmas Trail this year, on Sunday 18th December 7.30-9.30pm.

Come and join in for a drive around Mosgiel to see the Christmas decorations and lights on houses and gardens.

Tickets only cost \$5pp, available at the school office, AMI Mosgiel, and Rosies Gift Shop.

Please invite family and friends to join us and enjoy this magical time of the year.



Shared Lunch Wednesday 14th December

To celebrate the end of our learning journey for 2011, **all classes** will be having a shared lunch in their classroom on **Wednesday 14th December** from 12.30pm.

- You are all welcome to come and join us!

Please could we have something suitable for lunch, (as well as a few treats) e.g. savoury items like scones, pizza bread, vege slices/dip, fruit kebabs, sandwiches etc. rather than too many packets of lollies, biscuits and chips. Sorry we don't have the facilities to heat food. If this could be delivered on a disposable plate, as it saves a lot of washing up and finding owners for lost plates! Thank you.

Term 4 Invoices

If possible please pay this week as this is the end of the financial year for our school.

If you have any problems please see Pauline in the office to make arrangements.

If you would like to pay by internet banking our school account is ASB 12 3196 0004102 00.

Thank you.

School Sports Top and Vest

Could you please return your child's sports top and school vest back to the class teacher.

All sports tops and vests need to be returned to school as they stay with the classroom.

So please check at home thoroughly and return as many as possible.

Thank you.

An Advent Prayer

In joy and gladness we give praise to you, O God, for you come to share life with us.

Come and assist us to see your loving care in the midst of our daily struggles.

As we share in the waiting of your birth during Advent, give us patience.

As we celebrate your coming at Christmas, give us joy.

May you continue to grant us peace and joy that surpasses all understanding.

We ask these gifts in the mystery of God, Source of all life. Amen

Food Bank Donations

We ask that you bring along some items for the Mosgiel Foodbank to our End of Year Mass on Thursday December 15th please.

There will be cartons in the Church porch to put these into.

This is a practical way in which we can all help others at this time of the year.

Non perishable goods please such as milo, tea, cereals, tinned food ie vegetabes/sauces and fruit, pasta, rice as well as any Christmas treats.

Looking Ahead Term 4

December

13th First Reconciliation 7pm
PTA BBQ lunch (provided)
2.15pm Staff/Parents v Year 8 Netball

14th Kavanagh Production Rms 5-7
Shared Lunch Day in all classrooms—see notice on next page.
BOT Meeting 7.30pm

15th 9am Assembly in the Hall
Final Mass 6pm, farewell to our Yr 8 pupils—all pupils to be in uniform.

16th Clean up morning, children to be pickup by lunch time please.

First Day Back for Term 1 2012 is Tuesday 31st January, 9am start, all children meet in the school foyer.

Lost Property

Please check this before the end of year as we will dispose of all unwanted clothing.

Altar Servers Sunday 18th December

Lilly McKewen, Jaylah Kennedy, Ryan Hanrahan.

A thought for the week...

Not knowing when the dawn will come,
I open every door. —Emily Dickinson

School Production 2011

Production DVD for sale

-send along \$10 in a named envelope to the school office, & a DVD will be sent home before Friday.



*St Mary's School, Mosgiel
Christmas Trail*

Come and join us for a drive around Mosgiel to see the Christmas decorations and lights on houses and in gardens at this magical time of year.

Drinks, nibbles, Christmas treats and entertainment will be at the houses, along with Santa!

Sunday 18th December 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Meet at St Mary's School at 7:15 pm to be provided with a map and further instructions on which house to visit first.

Tickets \$5 per person

Available from Rosies Gift Shop, AMI Mosgiel or St Mary's School office

Queries to Kate 484 7712

